

Greenways and Trails Tidbits

June 2006 Edition

American Hiking Society (from their website) www.americanhiking.org

National Trail Day (NTD), June 3, 2006 was a GREAT success!! There were 33 registered events on the NTD website <http://www.americanhiking.org/events/ntd/> along with a number of other activities that were not registered. There were over 30 volunteers that showed up for the trail construction workday at the Hamilton County Shackleford Ridge Park.

A big **THANK YOU** to the organizer's of each NTD event!! Mark your calendar for June 2, 2007 and start planning now for your 2007 NTD event.

TN. Dept. of Environment and Conservation - Division of Recreation Educational Services (RES)

RES received 106 Local Park and Recreation Fund (LPRF) grant applications and 40 Recreational Trail Program grant applications. Total grant application requests were \$24 million and there is approximately \$10 million in grant funds available. Grants have been scored, on site reviews have been made and the tentative date to announce the grant awards is sometime after July 1, 2006.

The Commissioner's Council on Greenways and Trails sponsored the Chattanooga Greenways Workshop on June 2, 2006. The workshop was a success with over 30 people attending, one from North Carolina. The morning session focused on Healthy Challenges, both for people using the greenway trails and the economic benefits to communities that have created greenway trails. The afternoon session was a tour of the 13 miles of the Tennessee Riverpark. Starting at TVA's Chickamauga Dam, it goes downstream on the south bank to the Tennessee Aquarium, then crosses the Tennessee River over the Walnut Street Bridge and currently ends at Coolidge Park.

In 1982, the Chattanooga Greenway system began as a vision to reconnect the city with the river. It has revitalized the downtown area making it a place to live, work and play. Additional portions of the greenway system include connections to South and North Chickamauga Creeks.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the greenways and trails resource notebook from the workshop, contacted Bob Richards at Robert.Richards@state.tn.us.

American Trails, <http://www.americantrails.org/>

The **18th National Trails Symposium** will be held in the Quad Cities of Iowa and Illinois on **October 19-22, 2006**. Hundreds of trail enthusiasts will gather at the magnificent Mississippi River to celebrate and learn about trail opportunities. To register for this event, go to: <http://www.americantrails.org/quad/>.

Bicycle Ride Across Tennessee (BRAT) <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/parks/BRAT/>.

Register now to reserve your spot for the 17th BRAT to be held **September 16 – 23, 2006**.

The 2006 route will be in West Tennessee starting at Natchez Trace State Park. For more information, call Danny McCullough at 931-686-BIKE or go to the website listed above.

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Cumberland Trail Conference (from their website) <http://www.cumberlandtrail.org>

The 2006 trail construction season has started with the Spring Breakaway program on the Rock/Possum/Soddy Creek section of the Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail (CTSST). The goal for this spring/summer season is to finish the last 5 miles of trail and to build several trail bridges. **Go to <http://www.cumberlandtrail.org/act.html> for the 2006 volunteer opportunities.**

International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) www.imba.com

The IMBA is sponsoring the June 20-23, 2006 IMBA Summit/World Mountain Bike Conference in Whistler, B.C. To register for the event, go to: <http://www.imba.com/summit/>.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Recreation Trail Program (RTP)

The FHWA - RTP website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/>. For more information and funding sources for bicycle and pedestrian facilities go to: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/bkepedtble.htm> . For more information on Equestrian trails go to: <http://www.elcr.org/> .

FHWA - RTP, in partnership with the USDA Forest Service Technology and Development Program, has many Forest Service Publications available to the public on the web and some are available in hard copy. Go to the website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/publications.htm> .

Information provided in this newsletter is taken from other sources and it is recommended that you go to those sources directly for complete information about an activity or event.



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